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NDA ANNOUNCES NEW NAYC MEMBERS

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) today announced the selection of the members of the 2012-2013 Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC).

The NAYC is entering its 42nd year with the installation of the new Council members. This year's Council is comprised of 19 college-aged men and women that exhibit a passion for agriculture and educating others about the agricultural industry.

The Council is responsible for coordinating several agricultural learning experiences for Nebraska youth including: visiting elementary classrooms to discuss where food comes from, taking urban youth to experience farms and what a day in the life of a farmer is like and visiting with high school students from across the state. The primary focus of the NAYC is to coordinate the annual Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI), a five-day conference for current high school juniors and seniors.

According to NDA Public Information Officer and NAYC Adviser Christin Kamm, "The members of the NAYC each exhibit a passion for the agricultural industry and a desire to educate others about agriculture. The effort put forth by these young adults is inspiring, and I look forward to seeing this year's Council members implement new ideas and educate even more people about agriculture."

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2012 – 2013 Council Members include:

- Gavin Kenney is serving as Head Counselor. He will assist in the day-to-day coordination of all NAYC activities, as well as NAYI 2013. Gavin is the son of Paul and Angie Kenney of Amherst.
- Haley Harthoorn is serving as Head Counselor. She will assist in the day-to-day coordination of all NAYC activities, as well as NAYI 2013. Haley is the daughter of Barry and Sue Harthoorn of Ainsworth.
- Emily Ibach is the daughter of Greg and Teresa Ibach of Sumner. She is serving as the NAYC President.
- Evan Ibach is the son of Greg and Teresa Ibach of Sumner. He is serving as the NAYC Secretary.
- Jud Hoffschneider is the son of Scott and Jennifer Hoffschneider of Arlington. He is serving as the Chair of the Promotion Committee.
- Alyssa Dye is the daughter of Bart and Kathy Dye of Alliance. She is serving as the chair of the Social Media and Technology Committee.
- Michelle Dvoracek is the daughter of John and Robyn Dvoracek of Elba. She is serving as the chair of the NAYI Improvement Committee.
- Lauren Ibach is the daughter of Todd and Barbara Ibach of Sumner. She is serving as the chair of the Youth Outreach Committee.
- Will Miller is the son of John and Karen Miller of Culbertson. He is serving as the chair of the Sponsorship and Alumni Relations Committee.
- Bryce Dibbern is the son of Billy and Karen Dibbern of Amherst.
- Emma Likens is the daughter of Tim and Sue Likens from Swanton.
- Trent Mastny is the son of Brian and Joan Mastny from Howells.
- Devin Heusinkvelt is the son of Myron and Jeanette Heusinkvelt from Cortland.
- Aksel Wiseman is the son of Robert and Sara Wiseman from Hershey.
- Steven Fish is the son of Mark and Kathy Christensen from Imperial.
- Larissa Wach is the daughter of Loran and Nancy Wach from Wauneta.
- Katie Holoubek is the daughter of Mark and Willow Holoubek of David City.
- Samantha Schneider is the daughter of Jason and Jennifer Schneider from Cozad.
- Brennan Costello is the son of Steve and Becky Costello from Gothenburg. He is serving as an ex-officio member of the NAYC after his recent selection as a National FFA Officer.

To learn more about the NAYC or NAYI, please visit the NAYI web page at www.agr.ne.gov/nayi or search for Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute on Facebook.

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Photographs of the NAYC members are available in electronic format upon request. Send requests to: christin.kamm@nebraska.gov.